# Translation

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# **PCT**

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's fi	le reference	FOR FURTHER AC	TION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416			
P33110-P0							
International application No.		International filing date		Priority date (day/month/year)			
PCT/JP2004/004774 01.04.200		01.04.2004		01.04.2003			
Applicant		itional classification and IP					
		iminary examination repo the applicant according to		International Preliminary Examining Authority			
2. This REPORT	2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.						
3. This report is	also accompanied by	ANNEXES, comprising:		•			
a. 🛭 (s	ent to the applicant ar	nd to the International Bure	eau) a total of 8	sheets, as follows:			
$\boxtimes$	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).						
sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.							
b. [ ] (s		-1 D b.) - 4-4-1 - 6-6		Cata-danata annia (a)			
D (S	ent to the Internationa	al Bureau only) a total of (i	ndicate type and numb	er of electronic carrier(s))			
		er readable form only, as istrative Instructions).	indicated in the Suppl	, containing a sequence listing and/or tables emental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see			
4. This report co	ontains indications rela	ating to the following items	::				
⊠ Box ?	No. I Basis of t	he report					
Box ?		ne report					
	Ť						
Box r	No. III Non-estab	dishment of opinion with r	egard to novelty, inver	ntive step and industrial applicability			
Box 1	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention						
Box ?	Box No. V  Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
Box 1	Box No. VI Certain documents cited						
Box ?	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application						
Box 1	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application						
Date of submission of the demand  Date of completion of this report							
Date of subilission of t	ne dellialid	1	Jaie of completion of t	ins report			
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP			Authorized officer				
Facsimile No.			Telephone No.	ne No.			



### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/004774

Box	No. I	Basis of the report	_						
1.	With indic	regard to the language, this report is based on the internation ated under this item.	nal application in the language in v	which it was filed, unless otherwise					
		This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:  international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))  publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)  international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)							
2.	With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):  the international application as originally filed/furnished the description:								
		pages1,6-11		as originally filed/furnished					
		pages* _2,3,3/1,4,5	received by this Authority on	27.01.2005					
		pages*	received by this Authority on	···					
	$\boxtimes$	the claims:							
		nos. 2,4,6		as originally filed/furnished					
		nos.*	as amended (together	r with any statement) under Article 19					
		nos.* 1,3	received by this Authority on	27.01.2005					
		nos.*	received by this Authority on						
	$\boxtimes$	the drawings:							
		sheets fig. 1-5		as originally filed/furnished					
		sheets*	received by this Authority on						
		sheets*	_						
		a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplem							
3.	$\boxtimes$	The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:							
		the description, pages							
		the claims, nos. 5							
		the drawings, sheets/figs							
4.		This report has been established as if (some of) the amend they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as fil	ments annexed to this report and	listed below had not been made, since					
		the description, pages							
		the sequence listing (specify):							
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):							
*	If ite	em 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "sup-	erseded."						



International application No.
PCT/JP2004/004774

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  citations and explanations supporting such statement					
1.	Statement		<del></del>	•	
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-4, 6	YES	
		Claims		NO	
	Inventive step (IS)		1-4, 6	YES	
		Claims		NO	
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-4, 6	YES	
		Claims		NO	
i					

- 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)
  - Document 1: JP 2002-149150 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 24 May 2002, paragraphs [0036] to [0040] and [0045] to [0055], and fig. 2, 3 and 5
  - Document 2: JP 2002-366128 A (Denso Corp.), 20 December 2002, paragraph [0019]
  - Document 3: JP 11-352946 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 24 December 1999, paragraphs [0015] and [0016], and fig. 1 & US 6335764 B1, column 3, line 55 to column 4, line 26 and fig. 1

The invention that is set forth in claims 1 to 4 and 6, and the feature wherein "the abovementioned sets of image data that are input serially and the abovementioned sets of  $\alpha$  blending processed image data that have been stored in the data storage unit are subjected to a vertical filtering process" in particular, are not disclosed in any of the documents that are cited in the international search report, and would not have been obvious to a person skilled in the art.